

BOROUGH OF ST. IVES (HUNTS)



— :: —

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH

AND THE

CHIEF

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR 1972

— :: —

1972

Mayor :
Councillor S. PHIPPS

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health :

J. CALDWELL,
L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P. & S., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector :

J. G. REESON,
F.I.A.S., M.I.P.H.E., M.B.I., C.S.I.B., M.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspector :

I. PRICE

Meat Inspectors :

A. BUXTON
April 1972 – October 1972 (resigned)

P. GILBERT
Appointed October 1972

———— :: ————

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area	2,326 acres
Rateable Value	£999,971
Value of Penny Rate	£10,462
Number of inhabited houses (<i>approx.</i>) .	2,707
Population (<i>approx.</i>)	8,211

**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE BOROUGH OF ST. IVES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1972**

Mr. Mayor, Alderman and Councillors of the
Borough of St. Ives.

Your Worship and Members of the Council :-

I have the honour to submit my penultimate Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Borough for the year ended 31st December 1972.

Vital Statistics

Population The estimated mid-year population rose by 450 during the year bringing the total number of residents to 7,760. This rise represents approximately 40% of the increase which occurred during the previous twelve months and is surprisingly low when one considers the amount of development which has taken place in the town during the past year.

Birth Rate 185 births were credited to the Borough in 1972 — 50 more than in the previous year. The local adjusted rate now stands at 20·2 per 1,000 population which is 3·9 per 1,000 above the rate for 1971.

2 still births are recorded (1 more than last year) resulting in a still birth rate of 11 per 1,000 total live and still births.

Death Rate 57 deaths occurred in residents of the town during the year — 7 more than in the previous year.

The local adjusted death rate is estimated as 8·5 per 1,000 population — a figure which is considerably less than the national rate of 12·1.

Infant Mortality 3 infants died during the year within the first week of life giving an infant mortality rate of 16 per 1,000 live births compared with 17 for England and Wales as a whole.

Infectious Disease There was no outbreak of serious infectious disease — there being only 27 notifications received during the year of which 20 were in respect of measles.

Hospital Facilities

Since my last report confirmation has been received from the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board that, following consultations with the Authorities concerned, it is proposed to make a start on phase I of the Hinchingsbrooke Hospital by about the end of 1972 and on the main unit during the Summer of 1973. It is hoped that the completion of the whole phase will be achieved by the Autumn of 1975.

The Council welcomes this proposal and expressed the hope that the Government would make the necessary financial provisions to enable the whole scheme to be completed at the earliest possible date.

Finally, I should like to express my thanks to Mr. Reeson and all other Members of the Department's staff for their continuing support and helpfulness during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
JAMES CALDWELL.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1972

Estimated mid-year population	.	.	.	7,760
Live Births	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	
Legitimate	89	91	180	
Illegitimate	3	2	5	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
Totals	92	93	185	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population	.	.	.	23·8
Birth rate corrected by comparability factor (·85)	.	.	.	20·2
Birth rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales)	.	.	.	14·8
Still Births				
Legitimate	—	2	2	
Illegitimate	—	—	—	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
Totals	—	2	2	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
Still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births	.	.	.	11
Still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births (England and Wales)	.	.	.	12
Deaths	29	28	57	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population	.	.	.	7·3
Death rate corrected by comparability factor (1·17)	.	.	.	8·5
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population (England and Wales)	.	.	.	12·1
Infant Mortality —				
Deaths of Infants under 1 year				
Legitimate	2	1	3	
Illegitimate	—	—	—	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
Totals	2	1	3	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	

Infant Mortality rate (Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births)	16
Infant Mortality rate (England and Wales)	17

Table classifying deaths under age groups

<i>Age</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Under 4 weeks	2	1	3
4 weeks and under 1 year	—	—	—
1 year and under 4 years	—	1	1
5 and under 14 years	1	—	1
15 and under 24 years	1	—	1
25 and under 34 years	1	—	1
35 and under 44 years	—	3	3
45 and under 54 years	—	1	1
55 and under 64 years	5	2	7
65 and under 74 years	11	3	14
75 years and over	8	17	25
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	29	28	57
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The following table indicates the trend in population, birth and death rates for the Borough over the past five years :-

	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Population	5,500	5,860	6,150	7,310	7,760
Births					
Total live births	145	115	155	135	185
Crude birth rate	26·4	19·6	25·2	18·5	23·8
Area comparability factor	·87	·88	·88	·88	·85
Corrected birth rate	23·4	17·2	22·2	16·3	20·2
Birth rate (England and Wales)	16·9	16·3	16·0	16·0	14·8

	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Deaths					
Total deaths	78	70	57	50	57
Crude death rate	14·2	11·9	9·3	6·8	7·3
Area comparability factor	1·1	1·07	1·04	1·04	1·17
Corrected death rate	15·6	12·7	9·7	7·1	8·5
Death rate (England and Wales)	11·9	11·9	11·7	11·6	12·1

Notifications of Infectious Disease during 1972

	<i>Total cases notified</i>			
Scarlet Fever	4
Whooping Cough	—
Diphtheria	—
Measles	20
Typhoid Fever	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—
Infective Jaundice	1
Food Poisoning	1
Dysentery	—
Acute Meningitis	—
Tuberculosis	1
				<hr/>
			Total	27
				<hr/>

CAUSES OF DEATH (Registrar General's List)

<i>List No.</i>	<i>Causes</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
B19 (3)	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	1
B19 (4)	Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	—	1
B19 (6)	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	1	1

B19 (7)	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	—	2
B19 (11)	Other Malignant Neoplasms	2	2
B46 (2)	Other Diseases of Blood, etc.	—	1
B26	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	—
B28	Ischæmic Heart Disease	8	4
B29	Other Forms of Heart Disease	1	9
B30	Cerebrovascular Disease	2	5
B46 (6)	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	1	—
B32	Pneumonia	1	1
B33 (1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	5	—
B46 (7)	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	2	—
B36	Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	1	—
B42	Congenital Anomalies	—	1
B44	Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	1	—
BE47	Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	—
Total all Causes		<u>29</u>	<u>28</u>

TUBERCULOSIS

Total number of persons on Register at
31st December 1972 ... 21

Pulmonary ... 19 Non-Pulmonary ... 3

Age Periods	New Cases - Diagnosed				New Cases - Transfers			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 . .	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
35 . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 . .	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals .	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952, in connection with persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis employed in the milk trade or under section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which deals with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

(a) Laboratory Facilities

The following laboratory facilities have been available to this Authority and to General Practitioners in the area:-

Public Health Laboratory,
Hills Road, Cambridge.
Tel. Cambridge (STD 0223) 42111.

Public Analyst,
(S. Greenburgh, Ph.D., B.Sc., F.I.C.),
Tenison Road, Cambridge.
Tel. Cambridge 52097.

(b) Ambulance Service

Ambulances administered by the County Ambulance Service operating in conjunction with the County Fire Service have been available on doctors' orders. Tel. Huntingdon 53348.

(c) Home Nursing

Nurse/Midwives employed and supervised by the Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council carried out home nursing and attended maternity cases within the Borough.

(d) Clinic and Treatment Centres

- (i) The following Health Services were provided by the Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council :-

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Infant Welfare	Children (0 – 5 years)	Every Friday. 2.00 – 4.00 p.m. 1st and 3rd Wednesday in month. 2.00 – 4.00 p.m.	Health Centre, Ramsey Road, St. Ives.
Dental	Pre-school and school children	By appointment.	Health Centre, Ramsey Road, St. Ives.
	Pre-natal and Nursing Mothers	By appointment.	Health Centre, Nursery Road, Huntingdon.

- (ii) The following Health Services were provided by the Regional Hospital Board :-

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Chest	All ages	Every Thursday 9.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. and 2.00 – 3.00 p.m.	County Hospital, Huntingdon.

Venereal Disease	All cases	Tuesday from 2.00 – 6.00 p.m. Thursday from 2.00 – 6.00 p.m.	Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.
	Males	Monday from 5.00 p.m. Wednesday from 5.30 p.m.	Clinic 5, Outpatients Department, Peterborough District Hospital,
	Females	Tuesday from 10.30 a.m. Thursday from 2.00 p.m.	Peterborough.

- (iii) The following service is provided under the Supplementary Ophthalmic Scheme of the National Health Service :-
-

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Ophthalmic	Pre-school and school children	By appointment.	Child Health Centre, Nursery Road, Huntingdon.

Medical, Surgical, Orthopædic, Obstetrical, Pædiatric, Gynæcological and Dental Out-Patients' Clinics are held at Huntingdon County Hospital and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, to which General Practitioners can refer their patients for specialist investigation.

(e) Hospital Services

Fever – Cases of Infectious Disease requiring hospital treatment were admitted to Isolation Hospitals at Cambridge, Peterborough and Ely.

General Hospital Services were provided by the County Hospital, Huntingdon and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

Maternity Cases were admitted to Maternity Unit, Primrose Lane, Huntingdon and Maternity Hospital, Mill Road, Cambridge.

(f) **Family Planning Clinics**

Huntingdon

Held at the Child Health Centre,
Nursery Road, Huntingdon.
Every Wednesday.
7.00 – 8.30 p.m.

*(To make an appointment
call at the Clinic or
telephone Huntingdon 53398
after 7.00 p.m.
Wednesday evenings ONLY)*

St. Ives

Held at the Child Health Centre,
Ramsey Road, St. Ives.
Every Monday.
9.30 – 11.00 a.m.

*(To make an appointment
call at the Clinic or
telephone St. Ives 62622
during sessions ONLY)*

St. Neots

Held at the Child Health Centre,
Almond Road, St. Neots.
Tuesday evenings.
7.00 – 9.00 p.m.
1st and 3rd Thursday mornings.
9.30 – 11.30 a.m.

*(To make an appointment
telephone Huntingdon 72261
during session times ONLY)*

**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1972**

Water Supplies.

In spite of the additional houses being built in the Borough, and the subsequent need for additional water, the Cambridge Water Company has been able to maintain an adequate and satisfactory supply of water.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

The three disc filters continued to help solve the sludge problem. Modifications and improvements are still made periodically to keep abreast of modern needs. The sewage was also found to contain products difficult to deal with and experiments are being carried out to improve matters.

Rivers and streams.

The scheme for Surface Water Disposal has been prepared by the Great Ouse River Authority but, owing to the development and other difficulties the scheme could not be proceeded with in 1972, unfortunately.

Refuse Collection.

During the year, it was found to be impossible to maintain a satisfactory refuse collection owing to staff, vehicle, and tip difficulties. In the light of Local Government reorganisation, the Council approached the Saint Ives Rural District Council with a view to amalgamating the Refuse Collection Service.

The Rural District Council took over the collection in September of this year, and all dustbins were replaced by plastic sacks and sack holders. The Rural District Council, with their number of vehicles, staff, and nearby tipping facilities, have been able to provide a satisfactory service to the Town.

Swimming Pool.

The swimming pool continues to be used a great deal, even by people from Towns many miles away.

Street Market.

The street Market has continued to flourish throughout the year. The replacement of the old wooden stalls with purpose built metal stalls, and a re-arrangement of parts of the Market, has greatly improved the general appearance. Market Byelaws have been drafted and are, at present, lodged with the Ministry awaiting their approval.

Shop Acts.

No infringements have been found during the year.

Caravans.

The caravan site continues to be run satisfactorily.

Smoke Abatement.

No complaints have been received during the year in connection with smoke nuisances.

Infestations.

One house in the Borough was treated for cat fleas.

Rats and Mice Destruction.

The Contract for the inspection for and destruction of rats and mice was renewed for the year. No complaints of the service have been received.

Number of complaints received and visits made ... 92.

Thirteen treatments were also carried out for the destruction of ants or wasps.

Petroleum Acts.

The number of Licences issued during the year was as follows :-

Over 1,000 gallons	3
500 – 1,000 gallons	5
Under 500 gallons	8

All have been checked for compliance with the electrical requirements where electricity was involved.

Dangerous Buildings.

No properties were considered to be dangerous during the year.

General Nuisances.

In all cases, general nuisances have been abated without the necessity to take formal action.

Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964.

Two firms are Registered under the above Act.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Acts, 1963.

The number of premises registered under the above Act is as follows :-

Offices	59
Retail shops	72
Wholesale Warehouses	4
Catering Establishments	17

Housing

(a) New Housing.

The number of new houses built during the year is as follows :-

Council	59
Private	199

(b) Overcrowding.

No cases of overcrowding have been found during the year.

(c) Slum Clearance.

The twenty-two houses included in last year's Report as being unfit were the subject of a Public Inquiry in September of this year.

At the time of writing this Report, the result of this Inquiry has not yet been received from the Ministry.

(d) Grants.

	<i>Standard</i>	<i>Improvement</i>
Application received	5	8
Applications approved	5	6
Applications refused	0	2

INSPECTIONS UNDER FACTORIES ACTS

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6		2	Nil	Nil
2. Section 7		25	4	Nil
Total	<u>50</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>Nil</u>

Number of cases in which defects were found:-

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	0	0	0	0	0
Over-crowding (S.2)	0	0	0	0	0
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	0	0	0	0	0
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	0	0	0	0	0
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	0	0	0
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	0	0	0
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	0	0	0
Other Offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to Outwork)	0	0	0	0	0
Total	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) MEAT :

The following Table shows the number of animals killed, carcasses inspected, and meat condemned at the Abattoir:-

	Cattle including Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs and Sows
Number killed	4,271	18	3,279	19,387
Number inspected	4,271	18	3,279	19,387

(All diseases except tuberculosis) :-

Whole carcasses condemned	1	2	1	59
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	652	—	69	921
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	15 · 29	16 · 66	2 · 1	5 · 05

(Tuberculosis only) :-

Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	30
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	0 · 15

Cysticercosis :-

Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	11	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	4	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—

During the year a total weight of 12 tons 14 cwts. 1 qtr. 1 stn. 5 lbs. of meat and offal was condemned at the Abattoir.

(b) POULTRY :

Number of processing premises within the district	1
Number of visits made	80
Number of birds processed during 1972	2,671,475
Type of birds processed ...	hens
Percentage of birds rejected as unfit	0·94
Weight of poultry condemned ...	79·898 lbs.
Number condemned	25,167
Average weight	3·2 lbs.

(c) SHOP INSPECTIONS :

All food shops have been inspected under Food Hygiene Regulations and Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Acts, and the following food has been condemned as unfit :-

Fruit	244 tins
Vegetables	238 tins
Meats	16 tins
Fish	18 tins
Sugar	48 packets
Soft drinks	74 bottles
Soup	31 tins
Cereals	38 packets
Flour	9 packets
Jam	16 jars
Coffee	49 jars
Evaporated milk	33 tins
Miscellaneous	205 items
Frozen foods	2,045 items
Margarine, lard and butter	39 lbs.
Meat	173 lbs.
Ice Cream	1,187 items
Salad Dressing	8 lbs.

From time to time during the year, it was found that Shopkeepers were still selling perishable food after the shelf life had expired, according to the date coding on the packing. It is to be hoped that the new Regulations to be introduced regarding the date stamping of all perishable goods, will overcome the excuse given at present by the Shopkeepers that the meaning of the date code was not explain to them by the Manufacturers.

(d) ICE CREAM :

There are 21 shops registered for the storage and sale of ice cream, and there are no Manufacturers.

(e) PROSECUTIONS :

There were no prosecutions during the year.

ABATTOIR

Agreement was reached during the year, with FMC (Meat) Limited, for the leasing of the Abattoir. As a result of this the kill has, again, begun to increase and it is expected that during 1973 further extensions and alterations will be undertaken to enable the kill to be increased still further.

